

DECLARATION

Of the PARLIAMENT of the COMMON-WEALTH of ENGLAND,
Concerning the Settlement of SCOTLAND.

THe Parliament of the Commonwealth of England, esteeming it a necessary care and obligation that lies upon them, to improve the power which God hath now given them, for the advancement of the glory of God, and the good and welfare of the whole Island, Have thought fit to nominate and appoint Commissioners forthwith to repair into Scotland, for effecting the same; And do hereby Declare,

First, As to what concerns the advancement of the glory of God, That their constant Endeavours shall be, To promote the Preaching of the Gospel there, and to advance the power of true Religion and Holiness; and, that God may be served and worshipped, according to his minde revealed in his Word, with Protection and all due countenance and encouragement therein to the people of that nation, from those in authority under the Parliament.

Secondly, They do Declare, As to what concerns the Freedom to be established to the People there, and the Security to this Commonwealth to be had for time to come, That Scotland shall and may be incorporated into, and become One Commonwealth with this of England; whereby the same Government that is established here, and enjoyed by the good People of this Nation, under the Free State and Commonwealth of England, as now settled without King, or House of Lords, may be derived and communicated unto them, with such convenient speed, as the same can be made practicable amongst them.

Thirdly, They do Declare, As to Satisfaction and Reparation, that they intend and expect, for the vast Expences and damages which this Commonwealth hath already undergone, by reason of the Invasion in the year one thousand six hundred forty eight, by the Scots Army, under the then Duke Hamilton: The War which they necessitated England to, for their own defence; and, The late Invasion by the Army under Charles Stuart; and, For and towards the lessning the future charge of this Commonwealth, all the Lands, houses, goods and revenue whatsoever belonging to the said Charles Stuart, pretended King of the Scots, or to the Crown or State of Scotland; and, All the Estates whatsoever, Real or Personal, of those who did invade England, under Duke Hamilton, in the year one thousand six hundred forty eight, or were advising, contriving or promoting thereof, or in any way aiding, abetting or assisting thereunto; or, Who were in Arms under the said Charles Stuart, or were any way aiding, abetting or assisting to him in Scotland; or Who did with the said Charles Stuart lately invade England, or were aiding, abetting or assisting thereunto, or since the same have raised Arms, or been promoters, abettors or assistants, thereof, in prosecution of the said Invasion, or in opposition to the forces of the Parliament of England remaining there, Shall be confiscated and forfeited to the use and benefit of the Commonwealth of England: Except such who have, since the Battel of Dunbar, on the 3. of Sept. one thousand six hundred and fifty, deserted the said Charles Stuart, and not born Arms since against the Parliament: As also such, whose merits and services to this Commonwealth, have or shall render them capable of being taken into a more favourable consideration by the Parliament.

Fourthly, The Parliament do Declare, That all such persons of the Scottish Nation, as are not comprehended within the former Qualifications, but have kept themselves free from the guilt of those things which have compelled this War, and shall now, upon the Discovery of their own true Interest, be disposed to Concur with, and promote the Ends formerly and now declared by the Parliament, Shall be taken into the Protection of the Parliament, and enjoy their Liberties and Estates, as other the Free people of the Commonwealth of England.

And forasmuch as the Parliament are satisfied, That many of the people of Scotland, who were Vassals or Tenants to, and had dependency upon the Noblemen and Gentry, (The chief Actors in these Invasions and Wars against England) were by their Influence drawn into, and have bin involved with them in the same evils. It is hereby Declared, That all those who are already, or shall within Thirty dayes after the publication hereof, on this side the River Tay, and within Thirty dayes after publication hereof beyond the River Tay, and within Thirty days after the publication hereof beyond the River Spey, put themselves under the protection of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of England, and conform themselves to their government and regulation, shall not only be pardoned for all Acts past, but be set free from their former Dependencies and Bondage-services; and, shall be admitted as Tenants, Freeholders and Heritors, to Farm, hold, inherit and enjoy, from and under this Commonwealth, Proportions of the said confiscated and forfeited Lands, under such easie Rents and reasonable conditions, as may enable them, their heirs and posterity, to live with a more comfortable subsistence then formerly, and like a free People delivered (through Gods goodness) from their former slaveries, vassalage and oppressions.

HEN. SCOBELL Cleric. Parliament.